

CLAIMS

1. A process for purifying an antibody comprising loading a mixture containing the antibody on a hydrophobic interaction chromatography column and eluting the antibody from the column with a buffer having a pH of about 2.5-4.5.
2. The process of claim 1 wherein the mixture loaded onto the column is at a pH of about 2.5-4.5.
3. The process of claim 1 wherein the mixture loaded onto the column has a salt concentration of about 0-0.25M.
4. The process of claim 3 wherein the mixture loaded onto the column has a salt concentration of about 0-0.1M.
5. The process of claim 1 wherein the buffer has a salt concentration of about 0-0.25M.
6. The process of claim 5 wherein the buffer has a salt concentration of about 0-0.1M.
7. The process of claim 1 wherein the antibody is chimeric.
8. The process of claim 7 wherein the antibody is humanized.
9. The process of claim 1 wherein the antibody comprises an antibody fragment.

10. The process of claim 9 wherein the antibody fragment comprises a F(ab')₂ fragment.

11. The process of claim 1 wherein the buffer has a pH of about 2.8-3.5.

12. The process of claim 11 wherein the buffer has a pH of about 3.1.

13. The process of claim 1 wherein the hydrophobic interaction chromatography column is a phenyl agarose column.

14. The process of claim 1 wherein the purified antibody is correctly disulfide linked.

15. The process of claim 1 wherein the antibody is purified from an incorrectly disulfide linked antibody.

16. The process of claim 15 wherein the incorrectly disulfide linked antibody is an antibody fragment.

17. A composition comprising an antibody prepared by the process of claim 1 in a physiologically acceptable carrier.

18. The composition of claim 17 wherein the composition comprises an antibody fragment.